AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (original): A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to control at least one of the layers to be subjected to small-scale display; and

controlling the computer system to perform the small-scale display on the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

Claim 3 (original): A performance data editing method according to claim 2 further comprising the step of:

restoring the layer from the small-scale display to normal-scale display in response to a mouse operation being effected on a prescribed portion of the layer.

Claims 4-9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (original): A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a mouse and a display, comprising the steps of:

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displaying a score window showing a plurality of layers which are vertically arranged on a screen of the display in response to control parameters of music performance, wherein one of the layers shows a staff notation with notes being sequentially arranged in progression of the music performance;

attaching execution icons corresponding to execution-related data onto the layers respectively at selected positions, which are arbitrarily selected by a user of the computer system;

displaying an icon modify window for allowing modification being effected on an execution icon selected from among the execution icons attached to the layers in response to operations of the mouse being controlled by the user, wherein the icon modify window magnifies the execution icon that indicates an specific icon symbol representing a specific execution; and

displaying an icon select palette in response to a user's operation effected on a button of the score window with the mouse, wherein the icon select window provides a number of execution icons of different types for selection of the user.

Claim 11 (original): A performance data editing method according to claim 10 further comprising the steps of:

effecting small-scale display on a layer selected from among the plurality of layers on the score window in response to user's operations with the mouse, so that the layer is displayed in a small scale providing visuality for the user to recognize existence of the layer on the screen; and

automatically displaying a release button which is placed at a selected position of the layer of the small-scale display and which allows the user to restore the layer from the small-scale display to normal-scale display.

Claim 12 (original): A performance data editing method according to claim 10 further comprising the step of:

allowing the user to modify the execution icon such that the execution icon is stretched or shrunk while the icon symbol is changed in shape with the mouse on the icon modify window, so that the modification of the execution icon is automatically reflected on the score window such that an execution of the execution icon is modified in at least one parameter.

Claim 13 (original): A performance data editing method according to claim 10 further comprising the steps of:

allowing the user to select an execution icon from among the execution icons listed on the icon select palette; and

automatically relocating the selected execution icon at a high-order place in arrangement of the execution icons on the icon select palette.

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (original): A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a first controller for displaying a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

an instructor for instructing at least one of the layers to be subjected to small-scale display; and

a second controller for performing the small-scale display on the at least one of the layers being instructed.

Claims 16-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (original): A performance data editing apparatus containing a mouse and a display comprising:

a controller for displaying a score window showing a plurality of layers which are vertically arranged on a screen of the display in response to control parameters of music performance, wherein one of the layers shows a staff notation with notes being sequentially arranged in progression of the music performance;

an icon provider for providing execution icons corresponding to execution-related data being attached onto the layers respectively at selected positions, which are arbitrarily selected by a user;

a modifier for displaying an icon modify window for allowing modification being effected on an execution icon selected from among the execution icons attached to the layers in response to operations of the mouse being controlled by the user, wherein the icon modify window magnifies the execution icon that indicates a specific icon symbol representing a specific execution; and an icon selector for displaying an icon select palette in response to a user's operation effected on a button of the score window with the mouse, wherein the icon select window provides a number of execution icons of different types for selection of the user.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (original): A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to control at least one of the layers to be subjected to small-scale display; and

controlling the computer system to perform the small-scale display on the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

Claims 22-24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (original) A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a mouse and a display to perform a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

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displaying a score window showing a plurality of layers which are vertically arranged on a screen of the display in response to control parameters of music performance, wherein one of the layers shows a staff notation with notes being sequentially arranged in progression of the music performance;

attaching execution icons corresponding to execution related data onto the layers respectively at selected positions, which are arbitrarily selected by a user of the computer system;

displaying an icon modify window for allowing modification being effected on an execution icon selected from among the execution icons attached to the layers in response to operations of the mouse being controlled by the user, wherein the icon modify window magnifies the execution icon that indicates an specific icon symbol representing a specific execution; and

displaying an icon select palette in response to a user's operation effected on a button of the score window with the mouse, wherein the icon select window provides a number of execution icons of different types for selection of the user.

Claim 26 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of layers are vertically arranged on the display screen.

Claim 27 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 2, wherein one or plural execution icons are arranged in the layer in a direction from the left to the right on the display screen in accordance with progress of the performance data.

Claim 28 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 2, wherein each layer is displayed as an execution icon layer corresponding to the execution-related data.

Claim 29 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 28, wherein the execution icon layer contains at least one of a tempo icon layer, a dynamics icon layer, a joint icon layer, a modulation icon layer, an accent icon layer, an attack icon layer, and a release icon layer.

Claim 30 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 2, wherein when the execution icon attached to the layer is edited, edited content is reflected onto the performance data.